

Message Text

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46

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07

LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 DHA-02 AID-05 SAM-01 SSM-03

IO-13 EUR-12 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 MCT-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /115 W
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R 221115Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6478

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

C O N F I D E N T I A L NOUAKCHOTT 2577

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, ELAB, PLO,MR

SUBJECT: MAURITANIAN REACTION TO ARAB LABOR CONFERENCE
SUPPORTING PALESTINIANS

REF: STATE 255799

1. SYRIAN CHARGE, NABIH AL-OMARI, IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION POSED
EARLIER IN WEEK, INVITED DCM TO HIS RESIDENCE OCTOBER 21 TO DIS-
CUSS MAURITANIAN POSITION ON ARAB LABOR CONFERENCE RECENTLY HELD
IN TRIPOLI. (MAURITANIAN DELEGATION TO TRIPOLI MEETING WAS LED
BY KHATTRI OULD JIDDOU, STAFF DIRECTOR IN MINISTRY OF STATE FOR
NATIONAL GUIDANCE AND MEMBER OF GOVERNING BOARD OF UNION DES
TRAVAILLEURS DE MAURITANIE--UTM).

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2. AL-OMARI SOUGHT OUT UTM SECRETARY GENERAL AND MINISTER WITH-

OUT PORTFOLIO, CHEIKH MALAININE ROBERT, THIS WEEK IN ORDER TO ASCERTAIN MAURITANIAN REACTION TO LABOR CONFERENCE RECOMMENDATIONS. ROBERT EXPLAINED THAT MAURITANIAN DELEGATION ATTENDED TRIPOLI MEETING PRIMARILY TO BE PRESENT TO DEFEND MAURITANIA'S SAHARAN POLCY IN EVENT IT SHOULD BE ATTACKED. (SUBJECT REPORTEDLY DID NOT COME UP.) GIRM DELEGATION WAS ALSO GIVEN SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS NOT TO ENGAGE IN ACTIVITIES WHICH WOULD CAUSE DIVISIVENESS AMONG ARABS.

3. CONCERNING RESOLUTIONS PASSED AT TRIPOLI MEETING, ROBERT SAID MAURITANIAN WORKERS WILL OBSERVE FIVE-MINUTE WORK STOPPAGE ON OCTOBER 22. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THIS WILL BE DONE IN SUPPORT OF PALESTINIANS AND NOT AS SYMBOLIC DENUNCIATION OF SYRIA AND "ARAB CAPITULATIONISTS" AS REPORTED REFTEL. (ANNOUNCEMENT OF WORK STOPPAGE IN OCTOBER 22 GOVERNMENT-OWNED DAILY DOES IN FACT DESCRIBE ACTION AS SOLIDARITY WITH PALESTINIAN WORKERS, MAKING NO MENTION OF SYRIA.) FURTHERMORE, ROBERT SAID MAURITANIA WILL IGNORE RESOLUTIONS CALLING FOR BOYCOTT OF SYRIAN PLANES AND SHIPS AND FOR EXPULSION OF SYRIAN ORGANIZATIONS FROM ALL ARAB FEDERATIONS OF POPULAR ORGANIZATIONS.

HANDYSIDE

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